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Alcoholism Blamed In Espionage Case

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla., Aug. 7 (UPI)—A psychiatrist testified at M.Sgt. Walter T. Perkins' espionage court-martial today that Perkins had been drinking a fifth of whisky a day "for years" and it had destroyed his judgment.

Dr. Maxwell N. Weisman, director of alcoholism control for the State of Maryland, was one of the psychiatrists called to the stand by the defense in Perkins' trial on charges of trying to pass secret U.S. defense documents to Soviet agents.

"With the kind of drinking that Sgt. Perkins was going it was clear to me that his brain must have been damaged and his judgment destroyed without any doubt at all," said Weisman.

He said Perkins, 37, who was noncommissioned officer in charge of intelligence for the air defense weapons center here, was maintaining a level of alcohol in his blood which "I would certainly call intoxication."

Under cross-examination Weisman conceded he had taken Perkins' word about the extent of his drinking and said examination had shown that Perkins had a "fairly normal" liver, one of the organs usually affected by heavy drinking.